available plan funds. The State Govt. have been undertaking various anti-erosion measures in the form of bank protection, revetments, spurs/studs and bed bars.

**Statement**

*State-wise average annual area of Agricultural land damaged due to floods and erosion in Ganga Basin*

(Area in Million hectare)

| Sl. No. | Name of the States | Area affected |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | West Bengal | 0.251 |
| 2. | Bihar | 0.633 |
| 3. | Uttar Pradesh | 1.245 |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh | 0.025 |
| 5. | Delhi | 0.004 |
| 6. | Haryana | 0.123 |
| 7. | Rajasthan | 0.207 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.029 |
| | Total : | 2.515 |

**Proposal for Setting up of Veterinary and Horticulture Colleges**

2119. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Veterinary and Horticulture colleges proposed to be set-up during the Ninth Plan Period;

(b) the places identified for the establishment of those colleges;

(c) whether any such college is proposed to be set-up in the Eastern Region, particularly in the State of Orissa, during the Ninth Plan Period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Elimination of Use of DDT as pesticide in Maharashtra**

2120. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DDT is a commonly used pesticide in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the average annual consumption of DDT in the State;

(c) whether it is also a fact that DDT is responsible for causing breast Cancer and other ailments; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to eliminate the use of DDT as pesticide in Maharashtra and in other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Under the National Malaria Eradication programme, DDT is being used as an insecticide for indoor house spraying in selected and high risk areas of the states including Maharashtra. The consumption of DDT 50% WP for the last 3 years in Maharashtra was as under:

| Year | CONSUMPTION OF DDT 50% WP (IN MT) |
|---|---|
| 1994-95 | 676.10 |
| 1995-96 | 1182.80 |
| 1996-97 | 728.20 |

(c) As per the information received from the Indian Council of Medical research (ICMR) no definite association has been found between DDT and human cancer such as breast cancer, leukaemia or pancreatic cancers. Further, there have been no reports of carcinogenic toxicity associated with use of DDT in human being and also no definite indication that DDT may affect reproduction/fertility.